

Friday
January 26, 1990



Pickett petition circulated by
faculty.....pg.4

First athletic director/council
chosen.....pg.6

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ALMAGEST

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 13

LSUS Life Science museum:

Vandals force relocation to LSUS

By KEVIN FLOWERS

Managing Editor

The saying that all good things must come to an end has proven true for the LSUS Life Sciences museum.

In recent weeks, vandals have been destroying the building's interior, taking with them anything of value, including copper pipes and wiring.

Dr. Laurence Hardy, museum director and biology professor, said there have been between 40 and 50 burglaries in the past three weeks, but fortunately they've been confined to the front building away from the museum's location.

Although none of the museum's exhibits were stolen, Hardy said it was just a matter of time.

"There's no hope of us moving back into the building now," he said, adding, "I wouldn't be surprised if repairs ran up to \$100,000."

Dr. Steve Lynch, herbarian and insect curator, said though the museum wasn't touched, items belonging to LSUS are missing, including tables and a boat motor.

Despite the efforts of staff members and numerous volunteers, the museum could not survive at that location. The



LSUS Life Science Museum's exhibits invade campus. photo by Larry Merrell

museum was recently moved back to campus after being located for nearly five years on St. Vincent Avenue in the Cedar Grove area.

According to Hardy the museum has been operating on a budget of only \$2,000 per year, which he said was a hindrance to daily operations.

"It doesn't provide any funds for student workers or a salary line, just telephone, postage and supplies," he said.

Due to lack of money for upkeep, badly needed repairs to the structure had to be dealt with in a makeshift manner.

From this pack the LSUS students voted the Tigers as most appropriate, with the Thundering Nutria running a close second.

SGA President Royal Alexander felt the Administration would find these choices unsuitable. "I would rather remain the pilots than take on an unoriginal or unappropriate

"We had probably 25 or 30 major leaks in the ceiling, but we were able to protect the exhibits with dropcloths," Hardy said.

Lynch said he feels the museum was "kind of hung out to dry over there."

"I guess the University believes it has better things to spend its money on," he said, "If we could just get some support, we can make this thing work. We've proved that."

Hardy said the museum was tremendously successful. "For awhile we were having 5,000 visitors a year," he said. "It was a pretty big operation, much

larger than most people imagine."

Until last year, when the museum had to begin scaling back, Hardy said the staff was running about 200 programs a year, not including the summer day camps.

The children's day camps emphasized the fun involved in learning about science.

The museum also held tours and seminars for local clubs and other organizations.

Hardy said he still gets requests from people wanting to bring school groups to see the museum, but added, "We can't do that right now."

Not only did the museum serve the public, it was also a scientific research facility.

Hardy said the research and experiments will continue, but because campus space is limited, the studies will be difficult.

Dr. Lyle Cook, dean of the College of Sciences, said he hopes funds will be available in the future to properly maintain the museum.

"Right now the university is having to be run on a shoestring budget, so it will be up to the state to decide whether or not we get adequate funding," he said.

Cook added that in its Science Building renovation proposal, LSUS asked that funds be allocated to construct a life sciences museum on campus. The Board of Regents said no.

"I guess they didn't think we needed it," Cook said.

In the meantime, there are still items to be moved to the campus.

"We're taking it day by day and doing the best we can," Lynch said.

Hardy said that if the museum is properly supported, it can again become a vital part of the community.

"We took a museum operation that was very lowly funded and turned it into a powerful educational force in the area," he said, adding, "We got the job done by using our resources to the utmost."

Students make mascot vote a farce

By MATT FRAZIER
Editor-in-Chief

The long awaited results of last semester's LSUS mascot vote are in.

The winner is...

...nobody

The mascot remains the same.

LSUS students submitted a

long, colorful list of possible mascot nominations.

From this pack the LSUS students voted the Tigers as most appropriate, with the Thundering Nutria running a close second.

SGA President Royal Alexander felt the Administration would find these choices unsuitable. "I would rather remain the pilots than take on an unoriginal or unappropriate

mascot merely to change mascots."

Alexander said he wouldn't see an Administration's refusal of the student mascot choice as impinging on student rights.

"At times the Administration does seem to restrict student power," Alexander said. "But I don't think this is an example of it."

Alexander feels in this case it

is proper for the Administration to disregard the student vote because the final winners were ridiculous and unoriginal — and therefore would only damage the LSUS image.

Dr. Grady Bogue, LSUS chancellor, upon learning the winners of the student vote, laughed.

"It seems to me it's important for the Chancellor to step back

from this and let the campus voice its opinions," Bogue said.

"It seems appropriate to let the Athletics Committee handle this."

Meredith Rambin, athletics director, said the vote turned into one big joke. He didn't feel the Thundering Nutria would

(See Mascotpg. 8)

editorial

Students need attitude change in mascot vote

Last semester the students of LSUS were given a rare opportunity - the chance to voice opinion concerning a campus issue. And we blew it.

Concluding that it was time for a new mascot, the University's "powers that be" chose to allow the student body to vote on the selection of the school's symbol.

But apparently we didn't take the matter seriously, for of the names in contention, the two finalists were the Thundering Nutria and the Tigers.

Needless to say, these two contenders were appropriately disregarded by the Administration.

Certainly there's nothing wrong with taking a light-hearted approach to issues, but sometimes a more serious attitude is called for, and the naming of LSUS' mascot is such an instance.

By making such mindless and unoriginal choices, the message sent is that we don't care about the campus or what others think of it.

And for those who must count the votes, the ordeal becomes a waste of time, and as the saying goes, time is money.

Having an appropriate mascot is important because it is representative of the University, not only to the local community, but to out-of-towners as well. With the possibility of other Division III athletic teams coming to participate in sports, this is even more significant.

Imagine the reaction if LSUS was known as the Amazing Amoeba or the Warthogs or some other ridiculous name.

Surely we can come up with a befitting symbol for the University. One that will promote pride and not draw laughs.

All it takes is a little effort and the knowledge that by handling this issue so thoughtlessly, we are only hurting the school and ourselves.

For now, we are still known as the Pilots.

The jury is still out on whether or not we get a second chance at naming a mascot.

The Administration wants to insure that, as happened the first time, the voting doesn't become a joke.

If the student body does win a reprieve, perhaps we'll show more concern for our future alma mater.



The Cheater

BY MATT FRAZIER

Editor-in-Chief

The fire of an insane glee mixed with a tar glump of guilt slopped in the boy's upset stomach.

His demeanor was ice.

The boy strolled nonchalantly through a tomb-like room filled with nervous, exhausted students. He made his way to the back row. The time had come.

Like a god, the professor

strode into the classroom, surveying the anguished students. The professor smiled — he enjoyed tests.

The boy in the back row also enjoyed tests. He had planned for this particular test for exactly 45 minutes. Hidden in strategic places were tiny strips of paper filled with minuscule words of wisdom. Two larger pieces of paper were tacked up in the third stall of the men's student

bathroom.

The professor held up a terrorizing stack of tests and grinned. "We are going to have a little quiz today."

The boy grinned. "Let the games begin," he whispered.

This test will be graded on a curve. If the boy makes an 87 and the next highest grade is a 54 (as

(See Cheat.....pg. 3)

LETTERS POLICY

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor.

Letters should be typed and double-spaced. They should be turned in to the Almagest office, BH 344, by noon on the Tuesday preceding the Friday publication date.

Obscene, libelous, and anonymous letters will not be published. The Almagest does not guarantee that every letter will be published.

We reserve the right to edit all letters.

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Cheat...

(Cont. from pg. 2)

often happens in science classes) the boy will get an 'A'. Guess what the rest of the class will make. The boy hopes you won't mind.

By cheating, the boy-in-the-back-row assures himself that any actual learning is strictly avoided. This means that he is wasting at least four years of his life and lots of his, or his parents',

money. He hopes they won't mind.

Should he make it throughout his school career without getting caught, the chances of the boy in the back row getting a job may be excellent because of his high GPA. The chances of him keeping that job are incredibly poor because of his overwhelming ignorance. He hopes his future family doesn't mind.

Besides being self-defeating and stupid, cheating is becoming

more dangerous. Many teachers claim there has been a rash of cheating on campus and are planning to keep a close eye on the boy or girl in the back row.

If you are a cheater — be careful!

But I must congratulate the cheater on having the moxie to choose a dangerous path that leads only to ignorance and waste.

Cheaters only cheat themselves.

BLIRM! THE TEST

1. EQUATE THE DIAMETER OF VENUS' ORBIT ABOUT THE COSMOS EQUILIBRIUM. DIVIDE THIS NUMBER BY THE COMBINED WEIGHT OF AN AVERAGE GREEK PHALANX. DISCUSS THE FINAL NUMBER'S LITERARY SIGNIFICANCE. (1PT)

**WHAT?!**

WELL, THE ANSWER IS OBVIOUS - I'M GOING TO HAFTA CHEAT.

BLIRM!

NO, WAIT. THE CHARADE MUST END. I MUST MAKE PEACE WITH MY CONSCIENCE. YES, HUMILIATION AND SHAME ARE MINE. IT IS TRUE... I WAS CHEATING.

WELL, WELL, WELL. WHAT HAVE WE HERE? SARAH BELLUM APPEARS TO HAVE A NICE LITTLE ANSWER ALL WRITTEN OUT. OOO, AND IT'S IN KEYHOLE FORM - WITH FOOT NOTES AS WELL! I'LL HAVE TO THANK HER LATER, WON'T I. ISN'T SHE SWEET....



SIR, IT WAS HORRIBLE! HOW TERRIBLE ARE THE THROES OF TEMPTATION, HOW MERCILESS ARE HER GRIPS. ENTICEMENT BLACKENED MY GOOD INTENTIONS, DISHONESTY SHROUDED MY SENSE. CURSE MY WAYWARD SEARCH FOR KNOWLEDGE! I WAS SEDUCED BY A RAVENOUS LUST FOR THE TRUTH. JUDGE ME NOT. JUDGE ME NOT!!



I TOO MUST CONFESS. I WAS ONLY TAKING ROLL.

Write letters to the Editor.

Give the campus a piece of your mind.

Almagest BH344

?????????????????????

"What was the worst Christmas gift you received?"

Gigi Harris, Radiological Technician, Sophomore. "An ugly peach sweater that was too small. I hung it in the very back of my closet."



Matt Musgrove, Journalism, Jr. "A camouflage velcro wallet that you wear around your ankle. I haven't even taken the tags off yet."



Stacy Satppard, Occupational Therapy, Sophomore. "Two pairs of ugly brown gloves. I lost one pair and gave the other to my dog to play with."



David Willis, Finance, Jr. "This paisley tie that is six inches too short. I'm wearing it today."



Chris Schevers, History, Sophomore. "A trip home to Iowa City, Iowa. It was 70 degrees below with the wind chill factor."



news

Petition puts Pickett under fire

By BELINDA ROBINSON
Staff Reporter

Last week, Dr. Charlene Handford, associate professor of communications, sent a petition to each college dean concerning the food services at LSUS.

Handford wants each dean to circulate the LSUS cafeteria food petition among their faculty members to generate some action. Handford feels service needs to be improved.

The petition states that the following people request an upgrading in the Pickett Food services at the University cafeteria, she said.

The food itself is "not fit to eat because it doesn't taste good" and the cafeteria has "such poor assortment," she added.

Also, Handford feels the prices are too high for such unappetizing food.

She also said the cafeteria kitchen doesn't look clean. Handford said she has seen the workers smoking while they prepare the food and that this alone makes her lose her appetite.

Robin Wade, LSUS cafeteria manager for Pickett Foods, was unavailable for comment.

The workers don't seem very health conscious because it seems they cook too many fried foods and they season



Dr. Charlene Handford

everything with bacon grease, Handford said, adding, "We should be getting better than what we have."

In addition, Handford feels the UC has poor cafeteria facilities because the room is not arranged to accommodate as many people as it should, she said.

"I don't think the University is filling its obligation to the students and faculty in terms of providing a variety of healthy food at a reasonable cost," Handford said.

Though Handford has such strong objections to the

cafeteria food, Professor Jimmie Smith, faculty senate president, doesn't find any major problems with the food.

"It's (the food) not as good as I would like but I've seen worse," Smith said. He hasn't seen the petition yet so he doesn't know if he would sign it.

A problem with the petition is that a lot of faculty members don't eat on campus, bring their lunch, or don't eat at all, Smith said. For this reason, some faculty members probably don't know about the problems, he added.



Pickett cuisine

photo by Larry Merrell

If the petitions get signed, they will be sent to Vice Chancellor Fabia Thomas, Handford said.

However, Thomas feels that if someone has a problem with the cafeteria on campus they should talk to her about it, Thomas said.

Thomas said if someone has

a problem with the food services, then that person needs to talk to her about it so she can take care of the problem, she said.

Thomas doesn't know the chances of finding another caterer because to choose a caterer she takes bids then chooses what she considers to be the best bid, she said.

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news

New admissions policy bites the dust for now

By BELINDA ROBINSON

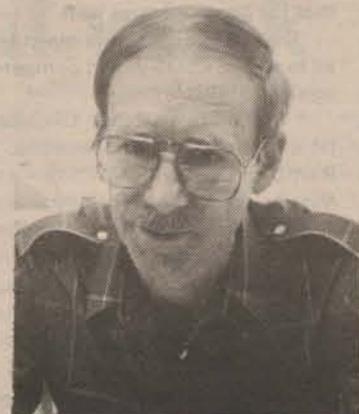
Staff Reporter

The Faculty Senate has disapproved a selective admissions policy proposed by the Administration last semester.

Dr. Jimmie Smith, associate professor of psychology and faculty senate president, said it wouldn't be wise for LSUS to have the proposed selective admissions policy because LSUS must serve the surrounding community in the best way possible. Also, because LSUS doesn't have dorms, the University doesn't attract as many students as other universities.

Chancellor Grady Bogue said he has asked the Faculty Senate to re-examine the proposed policy because he believes it would help the entering students more than the current policy.

The proposed selective admissions policy would have become effective in Fall 1991. Had it been approved, students entering LSUS that semester would have to obtain an ACT score of at least 16. However, in 1991, students would have to obtain a score of 17. In 1992 and thereafter, students



Dr. Jimmie Smith

would have to obtain at least a score of 18.

If students could not get the above scores, then they must have ranked in the upper 50 percent of their high school graduation class or have satisfactory performance on the university placement tests in English, math, and reading, or have maintained a high school grade point average of at least 2.10 on all work attempted.

Not only would students have to achieve one of the above requirements but students would have to complete their high school curriculum.

The new University re-

quirements may seem high but students who do not meet them can enter the Academic Support Program, Bogue said. This alternative admission is a service program designed to help entering freshmen who do not meet University requirements.

Students who have taken the placement tests would have to complete work in areas of deficiency and enroll in a study skills orientation course.

However, a student who shows deficiency in only one or two areas may petition the appropriate college dean for permission to enroll a maximum of 12 hours of regular credit classes while removing the deficiency.

Students with a GED must present an ACT score of at least 16 and must either enter the Academic Support program or have satisfactory scores on the University placement tests.

Because of the alternative admissions section, the new policy does not differ at all from the currently used admissions policy, Bogue said. Also, this section presents a problem because it lets anyone enter LSUS without meeting University requirements, he added.

A good-bye toast...

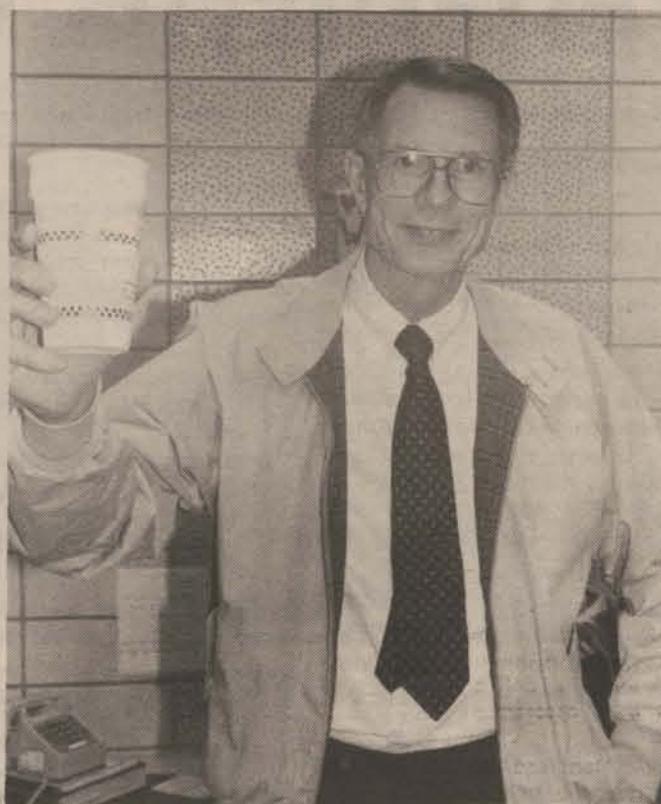


photo by Matt Frazier

Malcolm Parker said good-bye after serving as LSUS' first and only library director for 23 years. He goes now to serve as director for Camp Bethany.

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news

Athletic director named

By RANDY JAMES
Staff Reporter
and MATT FRAZIER
Editor in chief

LSUS' athletics program's first director is ready to implement fresh ideas and goals for the new program.

Meredith Rambin, instructor in the health and physical education department, was appointed the director of the athletic program by the Athletics Council in December 1989. The appointment was made effective Jan. 1.

LSUS Chancellor Grady Bogue said Rambin is a man well experienced in both high school and college athletics. He added that Rambin is a highly respected

member of the faculty who knows the University and the urban service area.

Rambin said his future goal is to fill the eight positions in the athletics program needed to qualify for a full voting membership in the NCAA Division III.

This means we need two team sports and two individual sports for both men and women, Rambin said.

Rambin is going to request tennis and golf and all other sports LSUS is financially able to start also be admitted.

"Then I can survey the student population and see their interest," he said. "So far eight people have signed up for tennis and two for golf. These (replies)

are from the response of the mail outs and notices I sent to the students."

To do all the things he wants to do with the athletics program there must be some financial help from the private sector, Rambin said.

"We haven't started looking for donations because we are still in the process of setting up the athletics program's administration," Rambin said. "The money from the self-imposed student fee will allow us to become affiliated Division III members. But we will need some outside donations to get all the sports needed to become full voting members."

Rambin added that everyone he has talked to is excited about the program, and seems to hope

that the program goes well.

There has been some question as to whom LSUS would compete against.

"There are no other Division III athletic teams in Louisiana," Rambin said. "Millsaps in Mississippi, Rhodes College in Tennessee and Austin College in Sherman, Texas are all schools we could play. We could also compete against schools in Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference.

"We may play one set of schools in one sport and another set of schools in another. It just depends on whom we can be competitive with. I've got a lot of ideas," Rambin added.

"I think we can be quite successful at this job. It is going to take hard work and support from the students, faculty and the community. We're going to keep our academic reputation in the forefront and we're going to add athletics as an extra dimension."

"I think you get a little more enrichment in athletics," he said.

We are in the process of considering setting academic standards of LSUS athletes, Rambin said.

Rambin wants to approach this program optimistically and has much enthusiasm for the program.

Rambin was a former high



Meredith Rambin

school and college coach. He was a coach and math teacher at Captain Shreve High School and previously taught at Byrd High School, Northwestern State University and Apopka High School in Apopka, Fla.

He was also physical director for Montgomery, Ala. YMCA.

For the Northeast football team he was an offensive guard and linebacker from 1959-62, with his awards including All-Gulf State Conference in 1961 and '62, Best Lineman, Best Defensive Lineman, Best Blocker and 100 Percent Effort awards.

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Faculty debates necessity of remedial work

Helen Taylor
Contributing Writer

Remedial coursework is a harsh reality for many college-bound students but educators differ over why the need exists.

Jeff Ickes, director of the LSUS counseling center, estimates 40 percent of all students entering LSUS need remedial work in at least one area. "We're seeing a developmental lag in students and it's not just academic — they lack interpersonal, social and career skills. Students are not nearly as prepared for life in general as they were 10 years ago."

Ickes said part of the problem is that students are bombarded with influences, such as television, that don't work the mind.

According to a report issued by the counseling center, the average ACT score for entering students in 1989 was 17.7, which falls short of the national average of 19.

"I attribute this (lower ACT scores) to the state of education we're in. Large populations of students are not getting the quality instruction and resources they need. We haven't made education a political priority in Louisiana. For instance, teaching salaries are about \$10,000 below the national average," Ickes said.

Dr. Bob Benefield teaches Psychology 101 — a course designed to help integrate freshmen into the university atmosphere. "High schools are not doing a bad job but they're not doing a great job either."

Anita Harkness, remedial math instructor said, "I don't think the schools are failing so much as the homes and students. I'm not trying to lay blame — I'm simply observing that we have a problem."

Harkness said the profile of the "typical" student has changed over the past 10 years. She reports today's student

seems to retain less material.

"The problem is that we've got students who aren't motivated for various reasons, most of which aren't academic," Harkness said.

She cited home problems, lack of attention and too much repetition in the high school curriculum as causes of the problem.

Dr. Stuart Mills, chairman of the math department, said many entering students lack necessary reading and math skills required to perform at the college level. He believes students lack incentive to achieve these skills in high school because college entrance requirements are too lenient.

Mills, who favors a selective admission policy, said he would like to see every student as thoroughly educated as possible. "I'm not trying to keep people out of school, I just want them to work while they're in high school.

"However, I believe that the high school curriculum must meet the needs of all students and a strict college prep curriculum will leave some students misplaced," Mills said.

Dr. Nancy Wilhelm, interim chairman of English, said the responsibility lies with the student. "So many students don't plan to go to college and they limit their options by not taking the courses they need to. They're not careful about course selection and grades."

Wilhelm said many students need counseling to learn to think long-term.

Caddo School Board counselor Dr. Antoinette Price said some students will never be able to perform above a certain level. "I don't think college is for everyone. We need to concentrate on helping students who are not college-bound develop vocational

Math teacher Harkness feels differently. "Some of my best students began as developmental students. You can't look at somebody and classify that person as far as potential is concerned."

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photo by Matt Frazier

Goat roast

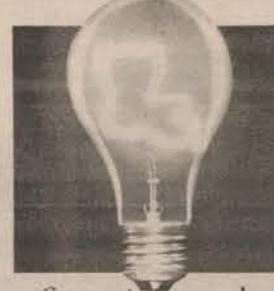
Dec. 15, 1989... The Post Finals, Pre-Christmas, Bi-Annual Goat Roast was held at the Phi Delta Theta house. There was BBQ goat, deer, and beef, and refreshments of the alcoholic kind. There were students of LSUS, Oregon Ducks and even some Professors showed up... Even they can't pass up an unusual party. Nile Copeland said "Without the Phi Deltas this party would not have gone as good as it did"

At the party there was a group trying to start up a new fraternity on campus.



photo by Matt Frazier

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news

Mascot...

(Cont. from pg. 1)

quite capture the image that LSUS is trying to project. He also had problems with the Tigers.

"I like the Tigers...but I don't like the Tigers," Rambin said.

"We need to develop a specific, more individual, image. The Tigers is too much identified with LSUBR. We need something eye-catching."

"Maybe we get students to submit new mascot ideas and have a committee made up of members from the Athletic Committee and LSUS students judge the entries. Then the winner of the contest would get a prize. I'll talk to the Athletic Committee about it."

Meanwhile, we are still the LSUS pilots.

SPRING SEMESTER 1990

by Carol Hall, Computer Science Department

The key will be posted near the Computer Science Office (SC 119).

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BRIEFS

The Student Activities Board is holding its annual spring recruitment retreat on Feb. 3 and 4. If interested come to the Monday meeting in UC Webster at 12 noon or stop by UC 229 for more information.

LSUS STUDENTS ONLY!

All full-time LSUS students are invited to attend the American Studies-sponsored Student Symposium on the American Presidency on Congress and the Presidency of the 1990's during the weekend of March 16-18, 1990 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. A variety of political and military leaders, as well as journalists and scholars are featured on the program. A White House Tour and State Department briefing are also offered.

Several scholarships from the American Studies program are available. Deadline for completed application, resume, and optional 8-10 page essay on the subject of the symposium are due no later than Feb. 16. For applications and further information contact Dr. William D. Pederson, director of American Studies, 148 BH (797-5349 or 5337).

We have FAX on campus. It is located in the Interlibrary Loan area of the library. At the moment there is no charge for the service.

State Rep. Roy Brun will speak at the "Forty-Minute Forum" Tuesday in BH 363 at 10:30 a.m. Rep. Brun will be the first speaker in a spring series that will bring members of the

Caddo-Bossier legislative delegation to the campus for informal discussion with students and faculty. Previous speakers have included Bobby Waddell and senators Foster Campbell and Sydney Nelson.

The English Club will be sponsoring a Book Fair during this semester and would appreciate any unused reading material that you can donate. Club members will be available to pick up all donations at your convenience. Please call Rachel Pennock at 631-8047, Mary Zimmerman at 865-2602, or Sandy Griggs at 865-0924 for information.

Deadline for admission to teacher education program is Feb. 9 at 4:30 p.m. Applications should be submitted to BE 384.

The Small Business Development Center at LSUS is holding a seminar for sole proprietors to help them identify and gather the

information needed for their 1989 income tax returns from 6-9 p.m. Monday in BE 104.

Workshop fee is \$10. For more information call 797-5262 or 797-5188.

LSUS will offer a course designed for those interested in taking the Caddo Parish notary examination on March 12, and for those who want to review and update their knowledge of the general principles of law concerning the responsibilities, obligations and duties of a notary.

The course will be offered from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays Jan. 30 — March 8. Course fee is \$65. Pre-registration is necessary and can be accomplished through the LSUS Office of Conferences and Institutes at 797-5262.

To assist seniors, Dr. Bill Stowe has set Feb. 5 through April 27 as the spring interview period. Sign-ups for February interviews will begin at noon on

Jan. 24. Also Dr. Stowe has scheduled several workshops and interview orientation sessions.

Interview Orientation — AD 218, Jan. 29 at 3 p.m., Jan. 30 at 10:30 a.m., Jan. 31 at 12 noon, Feb. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Get What You Want Through Successful Interviewing — Red River, Feb. 1 at 12:30.

Sign up for March Interviews — AD 218, Feb. 22 at 10:30 a.m.

Sign up for April Interviews — AD 218, March 23 at 9 a.m.

For help or further information contact Dr. Stowe in the Career Center, AD 230, or call 797-5062.

KDAQ Public Radio will begin a series of live monthly broadcasts Monday when the station broadcasts the Shreveport Super Sound playing Big Band music from the Centenary Oyster Bar.

The broadcast will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

KDAQ is heard at 89.9 on the FM dial.



Lake LSUS rises again. Recent rains have saturated campus grounds, leaving reflective pools of water everywhere. photo by Larry Merrell